THE TRAILS OF ENO RIVER STATE PARK

General Information:

There are approximately 28 miles of hiking trails within Eno River State Park. These trails vary from easy to moderate in difficulty and vary in length from 0.5 miles to 3.75 miles, although much longer hikes can be accomplished by combining trails. Sections of trail around the river are subject to flooding when the river runs high. Watch for slippery conditions. The trails are marked with blazes painted on trees.

Trail Rules & Safety:

- 1. Bicycles are not permitted on Eno River State Park trails.
- 2. No motorized vehicles other than official state park vehicles are permitted on state park trails.
- 3. Dogs must be on a leash everywhere in N.C. state parks.
- 4. Fires are permitted only in the fire rings at the camping and
- 5. Take only photographs, leave only footprints. The removal or damage of any plant, animal, rock or artifact is prohibited. Dispose of trash in the cans provided.
- 6. Alcoholic beverages are dangerous in the wilderness and prohibited in N.C. state parks.
- 7. The river and streams are not tested for drinking purposes. Drink only properly purified water. Water fountains and spigots are at the picnic areas and the park office.
- 8. Chiggers and ticks are seasonally plentiful in weedy areas of the park. Avoid them by staying on the trails. Check for ticks after passing through bushes or tall weeds.
- 9. Poison ivy is plentiful in some areas of the park. Learn to identify and avoid it. Stay on maintained trails to avoid
- 10. Trails are often slippery when wet, particularly near the river.
- 11. Watch your step, footing is rough and uneven on the trails.
- 12. Off trail exploring and orienteering are permitted but it is recommended only attempting these activities with persons trained in wilderness land navigation.
- 13. There are no protected swimming areas in the park. All water bodies are natural and have subsurface hazards. Avoid water when thunder or lightning are present.
- 14. Camping requires a permit and fee. Camping is only allowed in the backcountry sites off Bobbitt Hole Trail in the Cole Mill Access, the backcountry sites off Fanny's Ford Trail, the group camp at Buckguarter Creek and the group camp at Cox Mountain Trail at the Fews Ford Access. Registration is at the
- 15. Check with park staff regarding other North Carolina state park regulations. More detailed information regarding camping, educational programs, fishing, picnicking, facilities, nature and history can be obtained from staff and park publications.

TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

Cole Mill

blazed with yellow dots

This trail is a 1.2-mile loop beginning at the Cole Mill picnic area from either end of the parking lot. Most of the trail is an easy hike along the river with a short climb through the upland forest. Scenic laurel covered bluffs dominate the opposite river bank.

Bobbitt Hole

blazed with red dots

The trail is a 1.65-mile loop extending the Cole Mill Trail up river, intersecting the western section of Cole Mill Trail twice. A short spur at the southern end of the Bobbitt Hole loop dead ends at the hole.

Pea Creek

blazed with blue dots

Pea Creek Trail starts at the south end of the Cole Mill parking lot, goes down to the river, follows the river under the Cole Mill Road bridge, eventually intersecting with a short loop that follows the river and Pea Creek, and returns through the upland forest. The round trip from the parking lot is 1.3 miles.

Dunnagan

blazed with red dots

This trail is accessed from the Pea Creek Trail by crossing the creek on a footbridge. From there, this 1.8-mile trail is a loop with an easy 3/4-mile on the river and the remainder generally paralleling the river on the adjacent ridge.

Pump Station

blazed with red dots

The Pump Station Trail is known as the best spring wildflower trail in the park. It begins at the Nancy Rhodes Creek bridge on Rivermont Road and makes a 1.5-mile loop. It's an easy hike with a few gentle hills. The foundations of Durham's first water pumping station are at the northeast section of the loop near the river.

Laurel Bluffs

blazed with yellow dots

The Laurel Bluffs Trail has three distinct parts, all of which are part of the Mountains-to-Sea State Trail. The eastern portion of the trail is a 2.2-mile long trail that links Pump Station Trail to the easternmost boundary of the park at Guess Road. The middle section is a 2.5mile long trail that links Cabelands Trail to Pump Station Trail. The western part of the trail is a 1.4-mile long trail that links Eno Quarry Trail to the Pleasant Green Access.

Mountains-to-Sea blazed with white dots

The Mountains-to-Sea State Trail (MST) will eventually comprise 1,077 miles that will span the state of North Carolina, connecting the Great Smokey Mountains with the Outer Banks. Currently there are 7.5 miles of trail in Eno River State Park, connecting Pleasant Green Access (in the western part of the park) with West Point on the Eno City Park trails (at Guess Road). MST trails are always marked with white circles.



When you have finished with this publication, help save our earth by sharing it with a friend, returning it to the park or recycling it.

Cox Mountain

blazed with blue dots

Begin this hike in the Fews Ford picnic area. It is a loop and is a 3.75mile round trip. The hike can be lengthened by adding the Fanny's Ford Trail loop, which intersects from the northeast. The trail passes beside the picnic area, down to the river and crosses the river on a suspension foot bridge. The trail climbs 270 feet in elevation from the river to the hilltop. A long steep climb and descent is required.

Fanny's Ford

blazed with purple dots

This trail is accessed by hiking the Cox Mountain Trail from the picnic area north to the Fanny's Ford loop. This trail is a 1.01-mile loop but the round trip from the picnic area is 2.85 miles. The hike is generally easy with gentle hills and flat terrain along the river.

Eno Trace

blazed with red dots

This self-guided nature trail has information stations posted about Eno River ecology. Eno Trace turns west off the Cox Mountain trail on top of the bluff between the picnic area and the river. Round trip from the picnic area is 0.5-mile.

Buckquarter Creek blazed with red dots

This 1.5-mile loop trail begins at the Piper-Cox Museum parking lot and turns upriver at Few's Ford. The most spectacular rapids on the river are viewed from a rock outcrop along the trail. A staircase takes hikers over the outcrop.

Holden Mill

blazed with yellow dots

This 2.6-mile combination of two loops continues west from the Buckguarter Creek Trail from a bridge spanning the creek. Round trip from the Piper-Cox House parking lot is 4.1 miles. The smaller western loop is an easy hike around the stone remains of Holden's Mill. The river segment is characterized by rock outcrops, giant boulders and frequent rapids.

*Ridge

blazed with blue U's

The Ridge Trail is part of the old Ridge Road to Roxboro. Hikers may see what remains of three 19th century homes along this 1.27-mile route. It starts at an intersection with the Buckguarter Creek Trail and provides access to the Shakori and Knight trails. This trail can be combined with Shakori Trail to make a loop.

*Shakori

blazed with yellow U's

This 1.04-mile hike, intersects with the Ridge Trail at the south and northwest ends. It joins with the Ridge Trail to make a loop.

*Knight & Piedmont blazed with red U's

Knight and Piedmont trails are primarily accesses for neighborhoods off Pleasant Green Rd. but any hiker may use them. The Knight Trail turns east off Ridge Trail and goes up a steep hill 0.34-mile to the park boundary. The Piedmont Trail is 0.18-mile of utility right-of –way which crosses the Knight Trail. There is no parking access to these trails.



We're social:



Cabe Lands

This is a 1.2-mile loop starting from the Cabe Lands Access parking lot. Stone foundations and the millrace earth works of the old Cabe Mill are visible from the trail, especially when the leaves are off of the trees. This stretch of river is in the area known as Cabe's Gorge and is a particularly rocky area.

Eno Quarry

blazed with blue dots

blazed with red dots

This trail starts from the upper loop of the Cabe Lands Trail and descends a gentle ridge 0.38 mile crossing Rhodes Creek at the base of the Eno Quarry. The trail continues with a 0.42-mile loop around the guarry rim. Caution should be taken around the guarry. It is dangerous with steep drop offs, no shallow areas, depths at the banks generally exceeding 25 feet and maximum depths of 60 feet. There are hidden hazards below the surface near the banks. Banks are difficult to climb. For safety, stay on the marked trail. There are openings on the bank suitable for fishing.

*These trails exit the park. Enter private property with permission only.

PARK HOURS

Access Area Opens Closes 8:30 a.m. Pleasant Green *See note below 8:30 a.m. Pump Station Cabelands 8:30 a.m. Cole Mill 9 a.m.

*The four accesses listed above close 30 minutes before the Fews Ford Access listed below.

Fews Ford Access

8 a.m. May - August 9 p.m. March, April, Sept. & Oct. 8 a.m. 8 p.m. November – February 8 a.m. 6 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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